



PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 09062.0456

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Michel GARRAIT et al.) Group Art Unit: 1625
)
Application No.: 09/350,152) Examiner: T. Oh
)
Filed: July 9, 1999)
)
For: PROCESS FOR THE)
PREPARATION OF)
HYDROXYMETHYLBUTYRIC)
ACID)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Applicants hereby petition for a three month extension of time to reply to the Office Action of October 3, 2003 (April 3 having been a Saturday). A fee of \$950.00 is enclosed.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

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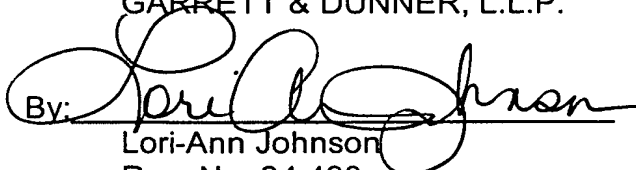
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Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: April 5, 2004

By: 
Lori-Ann Johnson
Reg. No. 34,498